

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

---

In re Patent Application of:  
Shinichi INOUE et al.

Application No.: 10/582,000

Confirmation No.: 9234

Filed: June 7, 2006

Art Unit: 1796

For: RUBBER-LIKE ARTICLES AND RUBBER-  
LIKE MATERIAL-CONTAINING ARTICLES

---

Examiner: L. J. Heincer

**RESPONSE SUBMITTED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.